

Robins, community are vital part of America's national security team

With one of the largest employee populations in the Air Force, Robins Air Force Base remains a cornerstone of defense for this nation. It is home to a number of major units and is anchored by the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center, one of only three in the Air Force. This diverse military complex is host to Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command, the E-8 Joint STARS aircraft of the 116th Air Control Wing, the KC-135 Stratotankers of the 19th Air Refueling Group, and mobile communications experts in the 5th Combat Communications Group.

We share a unique distinction with our Georgia Air National Guard guests. Late last year the unit became the first "blended wing" in the Air Force when it combined with the former 93rd Air Control Wing to fly the E-8 Joint STARS aircraft. The unit is the first Future Total Force wing in the Air Force, drawing the blueprint for a new, integrated Air Force organization. This historic unit continues the dynamic growth of Robins and its tremendous importance to Middle Georgia.

In the past 61 years, Robins has grown into a "mega" installation of more than 60 associated units, delivering everything from family services for our military members to command and control capabilities over distant battlefields. In partnership with the Air Force's most supportive local and state communities, Team Robins delivers



Wetekam

decisive combat support for America's fighting forces.

While meeting today's mission, Robins also continues to take on expanded missions and to plan for the future. Designated the Airlift Center of Excellence for the Air Force, the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center added some sustainment management of the C-17 Globemaster III to its responsibilities, joining the C-5 Galaxy, C-141 Starlifter, and C-130 Hercules management teams in providing world-wide support to Air Mobility Command's airlift forces. Analytical Condition Inspections of C-17s here also provide a foundation for expanded future C-17 maintenance work at Robins.

This potential growth in large aircraft maintenance provides one of the cornerstones for future depot maintenance workload at Robins, and we have programmed expansion of large aircraft hangar space in our budget planning.

The expanded maintenance, engineering and management workloads have created an exciting challenge to attract, hire, and train a new generation of employees. After years of minimal hiring during military downsizing, the center expects to need between 300 and 500 new employees each year for several years into the future. This has led us to re-invigorate partnerships with trade schools and universities throughout Georgia and surrounding states.

We have achieved these successes largely because of the tremendous support we enjoy from our surrounding communities. The partnership between Robins Air Force Base and our neighbors

in Middle Georgia remains strong, and grows brighter.

"EDIMGIAFAD" (Every Day in Middle Georgia is Air Force Appreciation Day) is much more than a slogan. The Middle Georgia communities have always put their resources where their hearts are, and our relationship continues to be mutually beneficial. From the educational and cultural contributions of the Museum of Aviation, to the training provided our workforce by the network of technical and academic institutions that surround us, we grow together.

That growth has real economic impact. In 2002 alone, Robins Air Force Base had an estimated \$4.1 billion impact on Georgia. This report provides our workforce, our commercial partners, and our Middle Georgia neighbors with the details of that impact.

As we look forward, the future will continue to challenge Team Robins. As in the past, these challenges will provide opportunity for the partnership between the Air Force and the people of Middle Georgia to grow even stronger in service to our country.

With the support we enjoy from our people, their families, our business partners, and the great people of Middle Georgia, Team Robins will remain a vital part of America's national security team for many years to come.


DONALD J. WETEKAM
Major General, USAF
Commander

Robins' net FY02 impact on Georgia economy exceeds \$4 billion

Middle Georgia Regional Development Center average

A region-specific model developed by the Middle Georgia Regional Development Center considers variables unique to each installation, including among others: the base's mission, the diversity of the economy in the surrounding communities, and the size of the local population. Their model provides a jobs multiplier that was specific to Robins and its surrounding communities. Using an average of the last six years analysis would place the value of indirect jobs created at \$2.3 billion, compared to the Air Force standard of \$872 million. Applying this \$2.3 billion to the numbers above results in an estimated FY02 economic impact of \$4.1 billion.

Air Force Model

Robins Air Force Base had an annual net payroll of \$1.139 billion, annual expenditures of \$181 million, and a retiree payroll of \$444 million in Fiscal 2002. The Air Force uses a standard job

multiplier for estimating the dollar value of indirect jobs created to help ensure a standard estimating procedure across the Air Force. Using this

standard model results in an estimated total economic impact of \$2.6 billion in FY02.

(Source: WR-ALC Comptroller Directorate.)

